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Washington, D.C. 20505 (703) 351-7676

Herbert E. Hetu Assistant for Public Affairs

17 January 1978

## STATINTL

Academic Coordinator NFAC

Brian,

We have no problem with your letter to President Woodin, indeed it is very impressive. Would suggest you show it to of OGC who follows the academic relations area. We have not seen the staff work on the proposal, and would appreciate being kept informed.

STATINTL

Herbert E. Hetu

## Dear President Woodin:

Since its inception, the Central Intelligence Agency has sought and benefited from extensive relationships with scholars and academic institutions throughout the United States. Leading academics and some of their best students filled the top ranks of the American intelligence community during its formative years, and have been succeeded by equally vital and skilled analysts from later academic generations. They have brought a high degree of intellectual energy, curiosity, and integrity to our profession and have made sure that our research and analytical efforts take account of the best work of the same character available in the private sector. Indeed, they have organized many of the components and practices of the Central Intelligence Agency on models they brought or have subsequently adopted from academia.

In recent years, however, the Agency and the foreign intelligence profession have been subject to intense criticism in academia. Although much of it was generated by false allegations and by practices and isolated abuses that have been prohibited by the reforms of the last few years, doubts about CIA's mission, standards, and record remain. A climate of suspicion and mistrust now all too often clouds our relations with the academic community.

One of my principal objectives as Director of Central Intelligence is to restore a high degree of mutual respect and understanding between the academic and intelligence communities. My own experience is filled with examples where cooperation between professionals in the two fields has been mutually beneficial both to the individuals and the communities at large. CIA desires the freest possible access to the intellectual resources of America's institutions of higher education to enhance our research and analytical efforts. Conversely, the academic community can gain unique insights, conclusions, and data about foreign areas and international affairs from open exchanges with the Agency. I look forward to the day when a cooperative spirit between the two communities thrives once again.

In pursuit of that objective, I am writing to invite you to be my/guest at CIA Headquarters on March 10. I would like you to join me and several other university presidents to visit CIA facilities, meet with officers from a variety of the disciplines and functions that constitute

our profession today, and to hear about some of the new analytical techniques we have developed. We want to be as candid as we possibly can in describing the Agency and its work and in responding to questions about foreign intelligence activities that may have arisen at LSU.

## **STATINTL**

as I hope, you will be able to accept.

Yours.

STANSFIELD TURNER

Martin D. Woodin, President Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803